

buying more fuel efficient vehicles, or to prevent taxpayers from finding out about political contributions by defense contractors. For all of these reasons, I am voting against this bill.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2354) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Chair, I rise to strike the last word.

Mr. Chair, I rise today to object to the offset in the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill that rescinds all unobligated funds for the High Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail program. This is funding that has been appropriated by Congress and awarded to worthy projects. Pulling it back now would break our commitment to our state partners, and cause costly delays for these job-creating infrastructure projects.

In opposing this bait-and-switch to high speed rail funding for our states, I am in no way discounting the need for emergency disaster relief for our friends in the South and Midwest who have survived catastrophic flooding and tornadoes this spring. Additionally, I've consistently been a champion of deficit reduction, believing firmly that we need to pay for what we spend.

However, I rise today to call attention to the absolute charade the majority is engaged in of requiring cuts to vital infrastructure investments to offset the cost of emergency spending. When this body appropriated funds for the victims of Hurricane Katrina, no other community was made to suffer. When this body appropriated funds for the victims of the California wildfires, no other community was made to suffer. When this body appropriated funds for the victims of the wildfires in Arizona, no other community was made to suffer. Yet, today, on the floor of this House, we are being asked to make a choice between one suffering community and another, for no reason at all.

Mr. Chair, I've come to the floor of this House numerous times explaining the dire economic situation facing my constituents. The foreclosure rate in my district is almost double the national average; three of the top ten cities in the country with the highest foreclosure rates are in my district. My district is home to three of the top ten communities with the highest unemployment in the nation. We have some of the highest poverty rates and lowest per capita income and educational levels in the nation. As if that weren't enough, the San Joaquin Valley also has some of the worst air quality in the nation. In a nutshell, there is no area in the United States that cries out for job-creating infrastructure investments more than my district.

Yet despite this incredible need, this bill proposes to eliminate \$386 million dollars of fund-

ing for two rail infrastructure projects in my district, resulting in the elimination of over 10,000 direct jobs and an untold number that could be created by private economic development around the train stations. Further, recalling this funding would hobble a project that will ease traffic congestion and help to improve the air quality of my district. And this bill, for the first time, cuts funding for a regional and national priority in order to provide emergency relief. It is simply unconscionable to subjectively and maliciously force one community to suffer due to natural disaster somewhere else. It is simply unconscionable to make disaster relief for one region of the country come at the expense of a region that has been struggling for years due to the economic downturn. It is unconscionable and because of that, I urge my Colleagues to vote no on this bill.

THE WORLD WILL MISS KIP TIERNAN

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2011

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, an extraordinary woman died earlier this month and she is mourned by a vast number of her closest relatives—the poor, the people down on their luck, and the homeless. Kip Tiernan had a passion for helping those most in need of help that was coupled with an extraordinary understanding of how to get things done, even in the bleakest situations. She was inspired both by her own passion for battling the pain of her fellow human beings, and by Dorothy Day, another extraordinary woman who, like Kip Tiernan, translated her Catholic faith into a daily routine of charity to the best sense. Among those who worked closely with Kip on behalf of the homeless was my mother, Elsie, and I take great pride that these two women, both now passed away, admired each other strongly, and each often told of their great respect for each other.

Mr. Speaker, on the Fourth of July the Boston Globe ran an article by Bryan Marquard that did a first-rate job of telling those who did not know Kip Tiernan about her, and giving those of us who did know her and benefitted from the warmth that she radiated for humanity, a chance to remember the best of times.

Mr. Speaker, in the hopes that Kip Tiernan's life will inspire others the way she herself was inspired by Dorothy Day, I ask that Mr. Marquard's eloquent obituary of this great woman be printed here.

[From the Boston Globe, July 4, 2011]

(By Bryan Marquard)

Kip Tiernan, who founded Rosie's Place, the nation's first shelter for homeless women, and whose persistent, raspy voice echoed from the streets to the State House as she advocated for the poor, died of cancer Saturday in her South End apartment.

She was 85.

Usually clad in a canvas hat and work pants, a cross and a skate key dangling from a leather strap around her neck, Ms. Tiernan helped create an A-to-Z of agencies that assist the disadvantaged in Massachusetts. By example, she also inspired so many people to try to ease suffering that, directly or indirectly, she may have touched more lives of

the poor in the Commonwealth than anyone else in the past four decades.

"Every day of her life she lived for social justice, and the lives she saved were untold," Mayor Thomas M. Menino said. "She always said that someday we will stamp out homelessness, but until that day we have to make sure everyone understands that a homeless person could be one of us. She was a very special person, and there's a big hole in our lives today because Kip's not here. This nation is going to miss Kip Tiernan because of her fight for social justice."

Along with Fran Froehlich, her partner in advocacy for more than 35 years, Ms. Tiernan founded, helped found, or was a founding member of a number of agencies and panels, including Boston Health Care for the Homeless, Boston Food Bank, Community Works, Aid to Incarcerated Mothers, Pinex House, Food for Free, John Leary House, My Sister's Place, Transition House, the Greater Boston Union of the Homeless, and Boston's Emergency Shelter Commission.

The range of suffering was such that "sometimes you think there aren't any tears left," Ms. Tiernan told the Globe in 1988, "and you find yourself sobbing."

Strong words were her response more often than tears, however. Drawn by faith to her calling, she brought unconditional love to each encounter with the homeless, and she didn't hesitate to criticize the powerful if they backed what she believed were unfair policies or tried to slide by with words of pity.

The cross she wore was more than a symbol.

"A rooted woman, Kip always wears that cross," Globe op-ed columnist James Carroll wrote in 1996, "which marks her not for piety or for a religion of easy answers, but for being, in her words, 'an angry daughter of Christ.' . . . I find that the cross of Jesus is the radical condemnation of an unjust world. You have to stay with the one crucified or stand with the crucifiers."

Sue Marsh, executive director of Rosie's Place, said in a statement she was "so sorry to be saying goodbye to a good friend of mine. . . . She has been the fiery, feisty, and beloved touchstone for the mission and vision of Rosie's Place, a compassionate friend to every woman in need."

On behalf of housing, health care, and an array of social justice issues, Ms. Tiernan lobbied, fasted, marched in protest, and was arrested during sit-ins at government offices. In November 1990, she began a fast in Arlington Street Church and explained why in an op-ed essay for the Globe.

"We should atone for what we have allowed to happen to all poor people in this state, in the name of fiscal austerity or plain mean-spiritedness. . . . We have, as citizens, much to repent for, for what we have and have not done, to ease the suffering of our sisters and brothers who have no lobby to protect them."

Before founding Rosie's Place in 1974, Ms. Tiernan traveled to meet with legendary Catholic activist Dorothy Day, from whose life she drew inspiration and spiritual sustenance for the decades that lay ahead.

Beth Healy, a Globe reporter who is writing a biography of Ms. Tiernan, said: "She had this soft spot in her heart for broken people, whether they were sick or mentally ill or struggling with addiction. Kip would hug a person dying of AIDS back in the 1980s when everyone else was running away. She would talk to someone living on the streets that no one else would talk to."

Ms. Tiernan, Froehlich said, combined compassion with "a pragmatic approach to solving issues, like: Hungry? Food. Homeless? Housing. And she challenged people with that clarity."

Though Ms. Tiernan asked “hard questions, at the same time, I was always impressed that she embraced people of all persuasions because she wanted them to see what she saw,” Froehlich said. “And I mean really embraced them. She would hold somebody’s hand while they were disagreeing with her. She really wanted you to join her in this pursuit of justice for people who have nothing.”

Born in West Haven, Conn., Ms. Tiernan was 6 months old when her father died and 11 when her mother died. Raised by her maternal grandmother, she learned during the Great Depression to help others.

“Her grandmother always had soup or stew on the stove,” Froehlich said, “and when people came to the house who were down on their luck, she always had bowls of soup or stew ready for them.”

By her teens, she was learning to fly a plane and play jazz piano. She also was expelled from a Catholic boarding school, telling the *Globe* she had failed math and asked too many difficult moral questions.

She worked as a newspaper reporter and moved to Boston in 1947 to attend the Boston Conservatory on a scholarship, only to be expelled for drinking. “I was raped once,” she told the *Globe* in 1988. “I was 19. Drunk.”

Speaking of the women she served at Rosie’s Place, she added: “I’ll tell you one thing. It helps me identify with what some of these women have been through.”

Ms. Tiernan joined Alcoholics Anonymous, learned from recovering street drunks how to stay sober, and became a successful advertising copywriter with her own agency. In 1968, she did some free work for priests who had invited activist Daniel Berrigan to speak at a church.

Listening to him, she later recalled, it was as if a voice inside her head said, “I have just passed through a door, and there is no going back.”

Leaving the affluence of her advertising life, she moved into Warwick House, an urban ministry center in Roxbury. Using her copywriter’s facility with language, she became one of Boston’s most quotable advocates for the poor, coining phrases such as “from the Great Society to the Grate Society.”

A service will be announced for Ms. Tiernan, whose longtime companion of decades, Edith Nicholson, died in the 1990s.

Ms. Tiernan helped raise Nicholson’s three children and leaves one of those children, Peg Wright of Saugerties, N.Y.; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. For the past 15 years, Ms. Tiernan and Donna Pomponio have been a couple. They married in 2004.

“The tragedies in the world continued to propel her to fix things and make them better,” Pomponio said of Ms. Tiernan. “She knew that as human beings, we could do better for each other. There was a support and strength that came from that woman, and having her by your side and in your life, you knew that you could do it, too.”

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF BARBARA DONNELLY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of my longtime friend and staff member, Barbara Donnelly.

Mr. Speaker, the first person I hired for my office when I was elected back in 1976 was

Barbara, which was one of the best decisions I have made during my 35 years in Congress. From the moment I took the oath of office, Barbara served the people of my district with a level of selflessness, loyalty and dedication to helping others that is unrivaled. You will never meet a more reliable or meticulous staffer, or a more caring person than Barbara Donnelly was. She was a perfectionist with a heart.

Throughout her career, Barbara touched the lives of thousands of residents in my district. From helping constituents with Social Security or veterans benefits, to assisting with immigration difficulties or the adoption of a child, Barbara did it all with compassion, discretion and determination. With Barbara at the helm of my constituent service program, I knew that she would not rest until our office had done everything possible to help people in need.

Barbara was the definition of a public servant, giving everything to her job and never asking for any credit. People like Barbara are the unsung heroes of public service, who work day and night to help others and almost never see their names in the newspapers or on TV. Barbara did not seek glory or recognition for her work, she only sought to improve the lives of others.

Mr. Speaker, there are few people like Barbara in this world. I feel blessed to have had the honor of knowing her and calling her my colleague. Over the years, I learned a lot from Barbara’s example and it is my hope that she will inspire others to lives of public service and good works.

Mr. Speaker, Barbara was an irreplaceable friend, staffer and human being. My condolences go out to her family, friends and all the people who had the privilege of knowing her and working with her. At this time of great sorrow, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life and memory of Barbara Donnelly.

A BILL TO AMEND THE AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2011

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that would update one of our most important preference programs—the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). This bill addresses two important issues.

First, it extends the “third-country fabric” provision of AGOA for three years, which is due to expire in September 2012. This will align the third-country fabric provision with the rest of the AGOA program which expires in 2015. Of course we are working on an improvement and extension of the AGOA program beyond 2015 right now.

The “third-country fabric” provision is one of AGOA’s most important elements. It allows apparel producers in lesser-developed sub-Saharan African countries to use third-country fabric in making apparel that gets duty-free treatment under AGOA (subject to a quantity limit).

In 2010, textiles and apparel were one of the leading AGOA import categories—\$730 million in trade last year alone. Much of these

imports require fabric that is not commercially available in sub-Saharan Africa. They depend, in other words, on use of the third-country fabric benefits.

Textiles and apparel are key exports for a number of AGOA countries including Lesotho, Kenya, Mauritius, and Swaziland who last year exported \$692 million of goods to us, mostly in apparel.

As U.S. Trade Representative Kirk recognized at last month’s “AGOA Forum” held in Lusaka, Zambia, “AGOA textiles and apparel have created new opportunities for investment and trade that benefit businesses and consumers in both the United States and Africa. This sector remains an important foundation for Africa’s growing industrial base.”

It is critical that the AGOA third-country fabric provision be extended now. It’s critical for businesses here in the U.S. and for jobs.

Buyers and retailers work on substantial lead times and need stable terms and conditions into the future. If there is uncertainty about whether AGOA apparel products will be there next year, they will begin to turn away from Africa. We cannot allow that to happen.

The second part of my bill takes another step in welcoming the new Republic of South Sudan to the community of nations.

On July 9—the South Sudanese took their future into their own hands and created the Republic of South Sudan.

The democratic process that resulted in the birth of this new country is an astonishing achievement—honoring the results of a referendum in which more than 4 million people, or 97 percent of registered voters, participated with 98 percent voting for secession.

The fact that this comes at the end of the longest and bloodiest civil wars in Africa makes it all the more incredible.

President Obama and Secretary Clinton have already signaled U.S. support for the new Republic of South Sudan.

We need to make sure we do all we can to help South Sudan be successful. We should act expeditiously, which is why I am introducing this bill on the first legislative day after the creation of this new nation.

I strongly urge all of my colleagues to support it.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2354) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Chair, I submit the following letter in support of funding for the Department of Energy’s Office of Science in H.R. 2354, Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 2012.